

Registered at G.P.O. Hobart for transmission by post as a periodical
 Category B. Club's address - G.P.O. Box 68 A, Hobart, 7001

E N D A:

Keep this record.

No further notices until August



- h May: Mr. J. Copson speaks on Macquarie Island - as he has
 seen it for twelve months, last year. Slides
 Five minute talk by Miss Effie Warren.
- d May: Outing to Pelverata Falls - 1½ hours reasonable walk
 from road sign.
 Prince Theatre 10.00 a.m. leader - Gilbert Van Munster.
 Telephone 296602
- h June: Speaker Mr. R. Tyson, Officer 'Parks and Wildlife Service'
 'The use of Fire in the bush.'
 Five minute talk by Mrs. E. Thorpe
- h June: Outing to Gunner's Quoin.
 leave Prince Theatre 10.00 a.m. leader Peter Fielding.
- h July: Slides on North Western Tasmania.
 Mr. Ken Dallas will show and explain Aboriginal carvings
 in this area.
- h July: Outing to Goats' Bluff - leader Len Wall. Prince Theatre 9.30 a.m.
- h August: Members night! Find those few odd slides,
 Think about a little to say,
 Remember 'Present Members Present.'
- t August: Outing to Magra Caves. As in August 1972 Miss Barbara
 Greenstreet will be the leader.
 Telephone 236206

FEDERATION OF FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUBS OF TASMANIA

by Marjorie Westbrook - What do you do with it? Shall we forget it?

The Federation of Field Naturalists' Clubs of Tasmania meets twice a year, and between meetings there is quite a bit of correspondence on subjects brought up and some of this is writing to various government bodies and politicians on conservation matters. At the next meeting at the end of September, at Burnie's Camp House near Mole Creek, they are to discuss the FUNCTION of the Federation.

It began, in the first place, as a conservation body and several outdoor-loving groups joined - about four Field Nats' Clubs, the Wynyard and Launceston Camera Clubs, the North West and Launceston Walking Clubs and the Hobart Photographic Society, but not the Hobart Walking Club. These groups felt the need for a State-wide body to use their combined voice in bringing conservation matters before the Government. In time, others began to see the need for conservation, and at last the Conservation Trust was formed - an entirely independent organisation with many members with expertise - such as University professors, in their ranks. It appears now to be the publicly recognised authority and watchdog on conservation matters.

So where, now, does the Federation of Field Naturalists' Clubs of Tasmania stand? The Camera Clubs have withdrawn.

Is it, as it was in the first place, mainly a conservation watchdog and activator? Could this be adequately covered by the Conservation Trust?

Or could it be a vehicle for co-operation between clubs on various projects in the way of gathering information of use to the Conservation Trust; or the National Parks and Wildlife Service (such as Boneseed, or an Orchid map?) or information on the flora and fauna of pine forests. Is its present organisation satisfactory? Or should there be a change in the way it is run? What interest have the rank and file members of clubs in it?

If it is mainly conservation, it is backed still by the Walking Clubs. If it ceased to concern itself mainly with conservation, the walking clubs would probably withdraw, as their interest is in conserving areas for outdoor recreation overall - not in the detailed study of flora and fauna. Conservation matters could be brought up by individual clubs to the Conservation Trust of their region.

The affiliation fee remains the same as last year, \$4.00 for postage and stationery. Delegates go to the meetings at their own expense - and it is mostly the same faces you see there each time. Last time, only Burnie club sent in any agenda items before the meeting. Some more items were brought up at the meeting, which means delegates had to vote as individuals because they had no directions from their clubs.

Most clubs are interested primarily in their own area. Conservation matters could be brought up by individual clubs to the Conservation Trust of their region. Very little co-operation has been noticeable to date in natural history projects. Is it worth preserving the Federation? If so, what should be its functions and how can they be made to work?

We need your written opinions in the next few weeks so that they can be collated by the Secretary of the Federation of Field Naturalists' Clubs of Tasmania and sent out to clubs, together with a copy of the original constitution, in order that delegates to the September meeting are able to discuss this matter with the opinions of their club members in mind.

Please send your ideas to the Secretary, E.P.O. Box 68 A, by 31st May.

Financial statements for 1974 and 1975 are available at the meeting or at request from the Treasurer.

E C O TIMES a new 22 page newsletter produced by the Tasmanian Environment Centre Inc. T.E.C. is promoting environmental awareness in the community. It is to provide current environmental information and to provide a forum in which points of view on environmental matters can be explored. Five issues for \$1.00.

T.E.C. membership 50 cents. Office - 102 Bathurst Street, Hobart.

HABITAT - A.C.F. magazine. Special issue - A view of China and Walking tracks in Tasmania.

IS YOUR SUBSCRIPTION DUE?

If not paid yet, please pay at the meeting or send a cheque, postal order c/o G.P.O. Box 68A.

- Pensioners/Students ... \$2.50
- Adult \$4.50
- Family \$6.00

S.G.A.P. news.

Rodway's Tasmanian Flora may be reprinted if sufficient copies can be sold. Cost depends on how many will be printed, between \$12.00 and \$18.00.

Inform Secretary of T.F.N.C. 'phone 296602

Should we continue to have a Federation of Field Naturalists' Clubs of Tasmania?

YES/NO - If NO - Why? _____

If YES - What should be its main aims? (please number in order of your choice)

- 1. Work for conservation matters at the State level.
- 2. Co-operation between Clubs on various projects.
- 3. Encourage the love for and increase knowledge of flora, fauna, geology etc. of Tasmania (How? _____)
- 4. Provide opportunity for members of the various clubs to get to know each other so that their enthusiasms will be increased. What are you prepared to do about it?

NAME.....ADDRESS.....

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